GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4708
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2008
RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND
Fanthome Shri Francis;Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up rural infrastructure development fund for financing development of rural infrastructure in the country; and

(b) if so, the spheres of rural development and the funds allocated and utilizsed by States, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government set up a rural infrastructure development fund (RIDF) in the year 1995-96 with an initial corpus of Rs. 2,000 crore for financing development of rural infrastructure in the country. Since then the scheme has continued year after year with its annual allocation being announced in the successive Union Budgets. A corpus; of Rs. 1.4,000 crore has been announced by the Government in the Union Budget 2003-09. State-wise details of funds sanctioned and disbursed to States is Annexed.Some of important activities, covered under the RIDF, are as follows:

Rural roads and bridges;

Micro, minor and medium irrigation projects;

Soil Conservation,flood protection,watershed development/reclamation of waterlogged areas;

Drainage, forest development;

Market yard/godown, apna ia:n.di, rural haats and other marketing infrastructure;

Cold Storage: Public or Joint Sector cold storage at various exit points;

Seed/Agriculture/Horticulture Farms;

Grading and certifying mechanisms such as testing and certifying laboratories,etc.

Fishing harbour /jetties, riverine fisheries, animal husbandry;

Mini Hydel Projects / Small Hydel Projects (upto 10 MW).

Drinking water and public health ir..stitutior.

Infrastructure for Rural Education Institutions

Construction of toilet blocks in existing schools, where necessary, specially for girl students, so as to improve the amenities available in schools;

Desalination Plants in Coastal areas.

Infrastructure for Information Technology in Rural areas.

Construction of Anganwadi Centre!!.

Setting up of rural industrial estates (KVIC)/Centres.